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FINANCE DEPARTMENT (CENTRAL REVENUES)

MEMORANDUM
On Excise (Hemp Drugs) Administration in India for 1933-34

18TH EDITION

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CHAPTER I.

MADRAS PRESIDENCY.

1. *General revenue statistics.*—The hemp drugs receipts for the year 1933-34 amounted to Rs. 21,26,750 and formed 5·0 per cent. of the total excise revenue of the Presidency. Rs. 11·59 lakhs were realised by duty and Rs. 9·67 lakhs by vend fees. *Charas* was not consumed in this Presidency. The receipts were derived entirely from *ganja* and *bhang*. The right of vend of these drugs was sold together. From the statistics of duty realised on issues within the Presidency for the year given in Imperial Form I of the Excise Administration Report, it will be seen that *ganja* accounts for 96·3 per cent. of the duty. The hemp drugs receipts for the year 1932-33 amounted to Rs. 20,42,144 and formed 4·8 per cent. of the total excise revenue. In 1912-13 the revenue from these drugs was Rs. 7,24,000 and the percentage to total excise revenue was 2·2 (*vide* statement II).

2. *Cultivation, acreage and supply.*—Madras produced its own supply of hemp drugs. Import of the drugs into the Presidency was prohibited. Madras also supplied the demand of the Indian States, and French Settlements within the Presidency limits. Coorg did not take its supply from this Presidency.

Cultivation of the hemp plant was prohibited throughout the Presidency except in the Bapatla taluk of the Guntur district where it was permitted under licence. The area cultivated during 1933-34 was 245 acres and 49 cents against 239 acres 19 cents in 1932-33 and 209 acres in 1912-13. Cultivation had been carried on also in the Hosur taluk of the Salem district from 1928-29 with a storehouse at Mathigiri. But with effect from 1933-34 season, the Hosur centre was abandoned and cultivation concentrated at Santravur.

The special staff sanctioned for the botanical investigation of *ganja* continued its work during the year.

The licensees were required to convey their produce to the public storehouse established by Government at Vetapalem. The storehouse at Mathigiri was closed from 1st December 1933. Removal of these drugs from the storehouse for consumption was permitted only on payment of duty at the prescribed rates, *viz.*, Rs. 27-8-0 per seer of *ganja* and Rs. 12-8-0 per seer of *bhang*. In 1912-13 the rates of duty were Rs. 7-8-0 per seer of *ganja* and Rs. 3 per seer of *bhang*. The storehouse was in charge of an Assistant Inspector of the Excise Department (on Rs. 125—175 per mensem); a temporary establishment of 2 Assistant Inspectors on Rs. 125 with extra Sub-Inspectors (on Rs. 55—80 per mensem each) was employed at Vetapalem to supervise cultivation and harvesting operations.

3. *Vend arrangements.*—The storehouses supplied retail vendors throughout the Presidency. Small shops could also obtain their supplies from other shops in the same district. As usual the licenses for retail sale were sold by auction.

The total number of retail shops in 1933-34 was 454 against 453 in the preceding year and 538 in 1912-13. The figures relating to the average area per shop and the number of shops per 100,000 of population are given below :—

Year.	Average area per shop in square miles.	No. of shops per 100,000 of population.
1933-34	313·94	0·97
1932-33	314·64	0·97
1912-13	264·55	1·30

4. *Consumption and average taxation.*—The total consumption of *ganja, bhang,* and their preparations in 1933-34 was 44,201 seers giving an average consumption of 0·95 seer per 1,000 of population according to the census figures of 1931 ; the average incidence of taxation amounted to Rs. 47·70 per seer of which Rs. 25·80 was derived from duty. In 1932-33, the total consumption of hemp drugs amounted to 48,161 seers against 52,478 seers in 1912-13. The average consumption of hemp drugs per 1,000 of population in 1932-33 was 1·03 seers compared with 1·3 seers in 1912-13. The average incidence of taxation per seer of hemp drugs in 1932-33 amounted to Rs. 41·85 against Rs. 13·8 per seer during the year 1912-13.

5. The total number of offences relating to hemp drugs increased from 529 to 585 chiefly contributed by illicit cultivation of the hemp plant and unlicensed sale and possession of hemp drugs. As many as 28 cases of smuggling of Mysore *ganja* into the Hosur Circle were detected during the year. The quantity seized in these cases was small in all cases except two and was intended for local consumption. Many attempts to smuggle *ganja* and opium to Ceylon (through Karikal and Pondicherry) were detected. Since the abolition of the special staff of the Excise Intelligence Bureau, the work of preventing and detecting organised smuggling has devolved on the Local Excise officers, and the indication is that the smugglers are aware of the limitations that are placed on the movement of the local officers and are taking advantage of them.

CHAPTER II

BOMBAY PRESIDENCY PROPER.

6. *General revenue statistics.*—The hemp drugs receipts (excluding revenue from hemp drugs issued to Indian States) for the year ending 31st March 1934 were Rs. 19,23,955 being 5·86 per cent. of the total excise receipts of the Presidency proper. The corresponding figures of hemp drugs revenue for the years 1932-33 and 1912-13 were Rs. 17·20 lakhs and Rs. 6·0 lakhs respectively. The percentage which revenue during these two years bore to total excise revenue was 5·45 in 1932-33 and 3·9 in the year 1912-13. Of Rs. 19,23,955 realised in the Presidency proper Rs. 11·77 lakhs represent duty and Rs. 7·47 lakhs licence fees.

7. *Cultivation, manufacture and storage.*—The cultivation of the hemp plant (only for *ganja*) was restricted to one taluka of the Ahmednagar district and was carried on under licenses which were issued free of charge. The licensed cultivators either sold their standing crop to licensed manufacturers, or obtaining a manufacturing license, harvested their crops on their own account. In either case the harvesting of the crops was carried on with the permission of the Local Excise officers and under their supervision. A fee of Re. 1 per annum was charged for the license to manufacture intoxicating drugs from the hemp cultivated. All drugs manufactured were stored in a bonded warehouse established near the place of manufacture. There was during the year one such warehouse in the district of Ahmednagar. From this central warehouse the drugs were issued on payment of duty to local license dealers, or to authorised purchasers from Indian States and foreign possessions, or were transferred in bond to other bonded warehouses established for the storage of imported drugs, of which there was one in the City of Bombay and one in each of the districts of Ahmedabad and Surat. For the storage of the drugs in these warehouses a small fee was charged, and issues therefrom were made under strict official supervision.

The cultivation of *ganja* was not allowed during 1933-34 as there was a sufficient balance of the previous year's stock to meet all requirements.

8. *Import and export.*—Licensed vendors could import in bond, under permits and passes, *ganja* from any province in British India and *bhang* from the United Provinces or the Punjab for deposit in one of the bonded warehouses. The sale of *charas* was allowed only in the Town and Island of Bombay and Ahmedabad City. Issues from the bonded warehouses for local consumption or re-export to Indian States and foreign possessions were subject to payment of duty. Transfers from one warehouse to another were effected in bond. Import by private persons was prohibited ; but *bona fide* travellers coming from foreign territory could possess for their own use, *ganja* or any preparation or admixture thereof not exceeding one tola, *bhang* or any preparation or admixture thereof not exceeding 5 tolas. *Bona fide* travellers proceeding to the city of Ahmedabad or the Town and Island of Bombay from foreign

territory or other provinces in India could possess for their own use *charas* or any preperation or admixture thereof not exceeding one quarter of a tola. Export by sea to foreign countries beyond India was permitted from the warehouse at Bombay only. All exports were subject to payment of duty, except those in respect of which any remission or refund of duty was allowed in accordance with special arrangements entered into with the importing Srates concerned. States which had agreed to assimilate their system of hemp drugs administration to that in force in British territory, or to take other adequate measures for the protection of the British hemp drugs revenue were allowed a refund of 13/14ths of the duty leviable on drugs supplied to them from British warehouses, whilst a fixed annual compensation liable to subsequent adjustment on the basis of actual revenue realised was paid to those which had leased their hemp drugs revenue to the British Government.

Statistics of import and export of drugs in the Presidency proper are furnished in Imperial Return IV A, and in paragraph 28 of the Provincial Excise Administration Report for the year 1933-34. During the year 48 maunds of *ganja*, 23 maunds of *bhang*, and 5 maunds of *charas* were exported to Indian States from the Presidency proper. This year 4 maunds of *ganja* were exported to foreign countries and 4 maunds of *ganja* were exported to other provinces.

9. *Transport, private possession, duty and vend arrangements.*—The maximum quantities of hemp drugs which could be transported without a permit from one place to another within the Presidency, or sold by retail, were five tolas in the case of *ganja* or any peparation or admixture thereof, and one-fourth of a seer or twenty tolas in the case of *bhang* or any preparation or admixture thereof. In the case of *charas* the limit was fixed at 3 tolas in the Town and Island of Bombay and Ahmedabad City. The rates of duty leviable on the drugs during the years 1912-13, 1932-33 and 1933-34 were as follows :—

	Per seer.		
	1912-13.	1932-33.	1933-34.
	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A P.
Ganja	6 0 0	30 0 0	30 0 0
Bhang	1 0 0	4 0 0	4 0 0
Charas	12 0 0	45 0 0	45 0 0

Wholesale vend of these drugs was carried on separately from retail vend. Licenses for wholesale vend were issued to persons approved by the Collector and the Commissioner on payment of a fixed annual fee of Rs. 30 each. The privilege of retail vend at each shop was sold separately by public auction. In the year under report 21 wholesale and 728 retail licenses were issued. In the previous year 20 wholesale and 533 retail licenses were issued, against 20 wholesale and 572 retail licenses in 1912-13.

10. *Hemp drugs offences.*—During the year the number of cases relating to hemp drugs decreased from 461 to 388.

11. *Total consumption and average taxation.*—The total consumption of hemp drugs in 1933-34 amounted as detailed below to 1,026 maunds or 2·3 seers per 1,000 of population, according to the figures of the census of 1931. The average consumption of all kinds of hemp drugs taken together per 1,000 of population amounted to 1·9 seers in the previous year against 4·0 seers during the year 1912-13 :—

	1912-13. Maunds.	1932-33. Maunds.	1933-34. Maunds.
Ganja	1,264	552	627
Bhang	208	179	213
Charas	136	117	186

The average taxation was 46·87 per seer comprising Rs. 28·67 on account of duty and Rs. 18·20 on account of license fees. The average taxation per seer of all sorts of hemp drugs taken together in 1932-33 was Rs. 50·69 against Rs. 11·6 in 1912-13. The consumption of *charas* was entirely prohibited in the Presidency proper except the Town and Island of Bombay and the City of Ahmedabad.

CHAPTER III.

SIND.

12. *General revenue statistics.*—The hemp drugs receipt for the year ending 31st March 1934, amounted to Rs, 5,87,491 being 19·37 per cent. of the total Excise receipts for the province. Of this Rs. 2,89,371 represent the duty and Rs. 2,97,920 the vend fees. In 1932-33 the revenue from hemp drugs amounted to Rs. 6·76 lakhs against Rs. 5·08 lakhs in the year 1912-13.

13. *Cultivation, manufacture and storage.*—The cultivation of *bhang* was permitted under license in Deh Bubak of the Larkana District. Licenses were issued free of charge and licensed cultivators could either sell their crops to licensed manufacturers or could on obtaining a manufacturing license themselves, harvest and sell their crop on their own account. In either case the harvesting of crop and the manufacture of *bhang* therefrom were done with the permission of the Local Excise Officer and under his supervision. A fee of rupee one per annum was charged for the license to manufacture. All manufactured *bhang* was required to be stored in the bonded warehouse at Bubak, close to the area licensed for cultivation. From this central warehouse the *bhang* was issued on payment of duty to local licensed dealers. For the storage of *bhang* in the warehouse, a small rent was charged and all issues therefrom were made under strict supervision. In 1933-34, 50 acres and 20 ghuntas were cultivated but the crop was not harvested during the year. The area sown in 1932-33 (38 acres and 20 ghuntas) and harvested in year 1933-34 yielded 1,701 Maunds 26 seers and 60 tolas of *bhang*.

14. *Import and export.*—Licensed vendors obtained their supplies of *bhang* from the Bubak bonded Warehouse in the Dadu District or wholesale depots on payment of duty. There was no production of *charas* and *ganja* in Sind. Warehouses for the import and storage of these hemp drugs (*charas* and *ganja*) in bond were also established at Karachi, Hyderabad and Sukkur in August 1924. The licensees were permitted to import *ganja* in Bond from Ahmednagar (Bombay Presidency) and *charas* from the Punjab; permits for imports in Bond were issued only by the Collector of the District in which the bonded warehouse was situated. The duty on the drugs was levied at the time of issues from the bonded warehouse. Import by private persons was prohibited but *bona fide* travellers coming from foreign territory could import for their own use *charas*, *ganja*, and *bhang* or any preparation or admixture thereof in quantities not exceeding ¼th, 1 and 5 tolas, respectively.

Export from Sind to Baluchistan was at first permitted on payment of an export fee of Re. 0-8-0 per maund but the same was subsequently discontinued. Again export duty was levied on all hemp drugs exported from any part of the Bombay Presidency under G. R. R. D. No. 1598-C., dated 14th

December 1931 read with G. N. No. 7992/28, dated 22nd March 1932 at the following rates :—

	Rs. Per seer.
Ganja	30
Bhang	4
Charas	45

In partial modification of the orders contained in paragraph one of Government Resolution No. 1598-C., dated 14th December 1931, Government were pleased to direct that the duty on *charas* exported from Sind to Lasbella and Khairpur States should be levied at the same rate as that levied on *charas* imported or manufactured in Sind.

15. The maximum quantities of hemp drugs which could be transported without a permit from one place to another within Sind or sold by retail were 5 tolas in the case of *ganja* or any preparation or admixture thereof, three tolas in the case of *charas* or any preparation or admixture thereof, and one fourth of a seer or twenty tolas in the case of *bhang* or any preparation or admixture thereof. The duty leviable on hemp drugs per seer in 1912-13, 1932-33 and 1933-34 was as follows :—

	1912-13.	1932-33.	1933-34.
	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
Ganja	7 8 0	20 0 0	20 0 0
Charas	60 0 0	25 0 0	25 0 0
Bhang	1 0 0	2 0 0	1 8 0

Licenses for the wholesale vend of the drugs were issued to persons approved by the Collector and the Commissioner on payment of an annual fee assessed on sales at the following scale of fees—

Eight annas per maund of *bhang* sold.

Four annas per seer of *charas* sold.

Four annas per seer of *ganja* sold.

The privilege of retail vend at each shop was sold separately by public auction. 12 wholesale and 369 retail licenses were issued during the year under report as against 9 wholesale and 205 retail licenses in the previous year and 378 in the year 1912-13.

16. *Total consumption and average taxation.*—The total consumption of hemp drugs in 1933-34 amounted to 68,347 seers (7,898 seers *charas*, 248 seers *ganja* and 60,201 seers *bhang* or 17·58 seers per thousand of the population according to the census of 1931). In 1932-33 the average consumption based on the census of 1931 per thousand of population amounted to 15·44 seers against 33 seers in 1912-13. For figures shown the total consumption of these drugs during the years 1912-13 and 1932-33 please see statement I. The decrease in sales was attributed to general poverty and to smuggling into Sind. The average taxation was Rs. 8·59 per seer of which 4·24 represented the duty

and 4·35 the vend fees. In the previous year the average taxation of hemp drugs of various sorts taken together amounted to Rs. 11·26 per seer of which Rs. 5·15 represented the duty and Rs. 6·11 the vend fees. In 1912-13 the corresponding figures were 4·4, 2·6 and 1·8 respectively.

17. *Changes during the year.*—The following changes were introduced during the year under report:—

(*a*) The excise duty on *bhang* was reduced from Rs. 2 to Rs. 1-8-0 (*vide* G. R., R. D. No. 9628/28, dated 16th January 1933, with effect from 1st April 1933).

18. *Offences.*—The number of cases relating to hemp drugs in 1933-34 was 215 as against 263 in the preceding year. The decrease was due to the better supervision done by the Excise staff. The total quantity of Kelat *bhang* seized during the year was 1 maund 30 seers and that of *charas* 35 seers. The number of *bhang* plants seized in 9 cases detected during the year was 280.

CHAPTER IV.

BENGAL.

19. *General revenue statistics.*—The revenue from hemp drugs for the year 1933-34 was Rs. 28,84,161 as shown below and amounted to 21·42 per cent. of the total Excise Receipts of the province :—

	Duty.	Vend Fees.	Total.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Ganja	14,89,223	11,41,739	26,30,962
Charas	75,604	61,552	1,37,166
Bhang	9,830	1,06,213	1,16,043
Total .	15,74,657	13,09,504	28,84,171

In 1932-33 the total revenue derived from all sorts of hemp drugs amounted to Rs. 31,17,979 and represented 22·17 per cent. of the total Excise revenue during that year. In 1912-13 the revenue from hemp drugs amounted to Rs. 30,70,077 and the percentage which it bore to the total Excise revenue was 22·31 (*See* Statement II).

Ganja.

20. *Production, supply and vend arrangements.*—*Ganja* was grown in Bengal in a compact tract of country about 31 square miles in area at Naugaon in the district of Rajshahi. This area supplied not only the local requirements of this presidency, but also those of Assam, part of Bihar and Orissa, part of the United Provinces and also of certain Indian States and foreign territories. The privilege of wholesale supply of *ganja* to all retail dealers in Bengal and to all wholesale dealers in other provinces and Indian States, was granted by Government to the Naugaon *Ganja* Cultivators' Co-operative Society. This Society which is composed entirely of *ganja* cultivators purchases the whole crop each year from the individual cultivators and sells it to retail and wholesale dealers at prices fixed by the Government from year to year on a definite basis. Each individual cultivator is licensed by the Collector to cultivate, and both cultivation and storage are conducted under close Excise supervision.

The details of cultivation for the last 3 years compared with those for the year 1912-13 are noted below :—

Year.	No. of cultivators licensed.	Area licensed.	Total outturn.	Average outturn per bigha.
		Bighas.	Mds.	Mds. Srs.
1912-13	2,959	3,063	7,078	2 12
1931-32	2,822	1,600	3,372	2 0
1932-33	2,649	1,201	2,984	2 13
1933-34	2,382	1,046	2,890	2 30

Licenses for retail sale were settled under the "Bengal Fixed Fee System". Under this system, the retail price of the drug is fixed, and licensees pay monthly license or vend fees on the issues taken out in the preceding month on a graduated scale.

1,222 retail licenses were issued in 1933-34 against 1,214 and 1,422 retail licenses in 1932-33 and 1912-13 respectively.

21. *Duty, consumption and average taxation.*—The rate of duty in 1933-34 was Rs. 40-4-0 per seer of *ganja*, against Rs. 11 in 1912-13. The drug was consumed in all districts. The consumption of *ganja* in the British districts of Bengal in 1933-34 amounted to 889 maunds 14 seers against 942 maunds 29 seers in 1932-33 and 3,070 maunds in 1912-13. The average taxation on *ganja* was Rs. 72·32 per seer, of which Rs. 40-4-0 were derived from duty and Rs. 32·07 from vend fees. In 1932-33 the average taxation on *ganja* was Rs. 73·2 per seer (Rs. 40 from duty and the rest from vend fees) against Rs. 22·9 (Rs. 11 from duty) in 1912-13.

22. *Duty, arrangements in regard to ganja exported outside the British districts of the Province.*—*Ganja* despatched to the United Provinces, Bihar and Orissa, and Assam paid duty in those provinces. *Ganja* could also be exported to other provinces in British India either in bond or on pre-payment of duty in Bengal.

Supplies to Cooch-Behar and the Feudatory States of Orissa were allowed free of duty. *Ganja* exported elsewhere paid duty at the rate current in Bengal before issue.

Charas.

23. *Supply, duty and vend arrangements.*—The use of *charas* was practically confined to certain towns in Western and Central Bengal. It is procured from Central Asia through the medium of licensed contractors in the Punjab, and paid duty in Bengal at the rate of Rs. 72-6-0 per seer, half of which had to be deposited by the importer before he could get a permit for import, the balance being paid on arrival of the consignment. The rate of duty on *charas* during the year 1912-13 was Rs. 12 per seer.

The right of retail vend was disposed of under the "Bengal Fixed Fee System". The number of sanctioned shops was 34 in 1933-34 against 34 in 1932-33 and 51 in 1912-13.

24. *Consumption and average taxation.*—The consumption of *charas* in 1932-33 was 25 maunds 26 seers compared with 27 maunds 26 seers in the preceding year and 27 maunds in 1912-13. The average taxation per seer was Rs. 133·84 of which Rs. 72-6-0 were derived from duty and Rs. 60·46 from vend fees compared with Rs. 135·9 in 1931-32 and Rs. 53-8 in 1912-13. The duty on the article was raised to Rs. 72-6-0 per seer with effect from 1st April 1933.

Bhang.

25. *Supply, duty, vend arrangements, import and export.*—The cultivation of the *bhang* plant was forbidden, but it grows wild in many parts of Bengal. The collection of *bhang* for use as an intoxicant or for sale, was prohibited. The drug was obtained from the wholesale contractors in the district of Bhagalpore in Behar and Orissa by the *ganja* Cultivators' Co-operative Society, Naugaon, who were given the exclusive privilege of supply to retail vendors in the Presidency. Duty was levied on issues from warehouses to retail vendors at the rate of Re. 1 a seer, throughout the Presidency.

Bhang could only be exported to the States of Nepal, Bhutan and Sikkim to the Tripura State and to French Chandernagore only on payment of duty in Bengal. In 1932-33, 2 maunds 31 seers of *bhang* were exported on payment of duty, against 3 maunds and 12 seers in the previous year.

The retail vendors of *bhang* were licensed under the Bengal Fixed Fee System as in the case of *ganja* and *charas*. Besides ordinary retail licenses, druggists' permits for the manufacture and sale of *bona fide* medicinal preparations containing *bhang* were granted to approved medical practitioners. In 1933-34, 963 licenses were granted for its retail vend, including 628 permits. Licenses issued for the retail sale of *bhang*, including druggists' permits during 1932-33 were 1,036 against 444 in 1912-13.

26. *Consumption and average taxation.*—The consumption of *bhang* in the year under review in the British districts of Bengal, was 242 maunds 27 seers compared with 263 maunds 16 seers in 1932-33, and 698·7 maunds in 1912-13. In 1933-34, the average taxation was Rs. 11·86 per seer (of which Re. 1 was derived from duty and Rs. 10·86 was derived from vend fees) whereas in 1932-33, it was Rs. 11·6 per seer, and in 1912-13 Rs. 3·7 per seer.

27. *Consumption and taxation statistics for ganja, charas and bhang, together.*—Taking, *ganja, charas* and *bhang* together the total consumption of hemp drugs in the British districts of Bengal in 1933-34 amounted to 1,197·8 maunds or ·9 seer per 1,000 of the population according to the census figures of 1931. The general average taxation thereon was Rs. 60·2 per seer, of which Rs. 32·9 were derived from duty and 27·3 from vend fees. In 1932-33 the total consumption of hemp drugs of all descriptions amounted to 1,157·37/40 maunds or ·9 per seer per 1,000 of the population. In 1912-13 it was 3,796 maunds or 3·34 seer per 1,000 of the population. The general average taxation in 1931-32 was 63·3 per seer (Rs. 33·6 from duty and the rest from vend fees). In 1912-13 it was Rs. 20·22 (Rs. 9·8 from duty and the balance from vend fees).

28. *Prosecutions and convictions.*—The arrests for "illicit cultivation or collection of *ganja* or *bhang*" increased from 100 to 181. Prosecution for "unlicensed sale of hemp drugs" decreased from 45 to 36. The arrests for "illicit possession of *ganja*" increased from 345 to 354 and those for "illicit possession of *charas*" increased from 42 to 110. The number of arrests for "illicit possession of *bhang*" increased from 256 to 290. The prosecutions for "unlawful import, export or transport of hemp drugs" increased from 7 to 22. The total number of persons convicted for offences relating to hemp drugs was 850 compared with 654 in the preceding year and 264 in 1912-13. There was thus an increase of 221·9 per cent. in the number of convictions in 1933-34 compared with that of the year 1912-13 and an increase of 29·9 per cent. over the figures of the preceding year (*See* Statement V).

CHAPTER V

BURMA.

29. *General prohibition of the use of Hemp Drugs.*—The use of hemp drugs by ordinary persons, and their production, import and sale have been generally prohibited in Burma since 1873, the object being to keep Burmans from contracting the habit of consuming these drugs to which they had not previously been accustomed. Experience has shown that there is no risk of Burmans acquiring a taste for these drugs. On the other hand, there is a very large illicit traffic in *ganja* which is grown by hill people in remote areas and smuggled into towns for consumption by Indians. The latter for the greater part are persons who have become addicted to the drug in India and pay little heed to a legal prohibition which is not in force in their homes in India. During the year under report Government placed before the Legislative Council a proposal for the sale of *ganja* to Indian addicts under a system of registration and rationing. The proposal was, however, rejected by the Council.

30. *Special Licences for Possession for Medicinal purposes.*—Possession of hemp drugs was prohibited except when possessed for medicinal purposes in the treatment of elephants or other beasts by (*a*) veterinary practitioners, or (*b*) other persons, under a licence granted by the Commissioner of the Arakan Division for that Division and by the Excise Commissioner for the rest of Burma. The number of licences issued for the possession of *ganja* for the treatment of elephants was 16, against 18 in the previous year and 17 in 1912-13. The fees realised from these licences amounted to Rs. 80 in 1933-34, compared with Rs. 90 in 1932-33 and Rs. 85 in 1912-13.

Holders of such licences obtained their supplies from the stocks of illicit *ganja* confiscated by Government. This was sold to them at the rate of Rs. 5 per viss of 140 tolas.

Orders permitting pharmacists to keep and sell under licence galenical preparations of hemp were passed in 1930-31 by the Local Government. Five such licences, *viz.*, 3 in Rangoon and 2 in Mandalay were issued in the province in 1933-34.

31. *Offences and convictions, seizures and smuggling of hemp drugs.*—Seizures of illicit hemp drugs rose from 1,28,828 tolas in 1932-33 to 1,82,299 tolas in 1933-34, but convictions fell from 703 in 1932-33 to 657 in 1933-34. In 1912-13 seizures amounted to 1,52,945 tolas and convictions to 501.

CHAPTER VI.

BIHAR AND ORISSA.

32. *General revenue statistics.*—The revenue from hemp drugs (*ganja*, *bhang* and preparations thereof) for the year 1933-34 was Rs. 24,34,000 as shown below, and amounted to 19·6 per cent. of the total excise receipts of the province :—

	Duty.	Vend fees.	Total.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Ganja	13,44,000	10,24,000	23,68,000
Bhang	19,000	47,000	66,000
Total .	13,63,000	10,71,000	24,34,000

The total receipts from hemp drugs in 1912-13 and 1932-33 amounted to Rs. 23·06 lakhs and Rs. 26·13 lakhs, respectively, and the percentages which these revenues bore to the total excise revenue were 22·2 in 1912-13 and 21·8 in 1932-33.

Ganja.

33. *Supply and vend arrangements.*—There were licensed warehouses for *ganja* in every district maintained under Government supervision at district and sub-divisional headquarters by licensed wholesale vendors (goladars) who got their licenses free of charge. The wholesale vendors procured *ganja* either from the Co-operative Society of *ganja* growers at Naugaon in the Rajshahi district of Bengal or from licensed cultivators from Bhagalpur, Darbhanga, Muzaffarpur, Cuttack and Singhbhum and sold it to holders of retail licenses. Two licenses for the cultivation of *ganja* in each of the districts of Bhagalpur and Darbhanga and one each in the districts of Muzaffarpur, Cuttack and Singhbhum were granted in 1933-34 and the whole quantity manufactured was supplied to the wholesale vendors of this province. The auction system was in force in all the districts of the province except Angul, where the sliding scale system was in force. 54 wholesale and 1,223 retail licenses were issued in 1933-34 against 124 wholesale and 1,334 retail licenses issued for the retail sale of *ganja* in 1912-13. The corresponding figures in 1932-33 were 54 and 1,131 respectively.

34. *Duty, consumption and average taxation.*—Duty was payable on the issue of the drug from the wholesale vendors golas (warehouses). The rate per seer in force in 1933-34 was Rs. 40 in the districts of the Patna, Orissa and Chota Nagpur divisions, in the district of the Santhal Parganas and portions of the districts of Monghyr and Bhagalpur, lying south of the Ganges. In the rest of the province the duty remained at Rs. 35 a seer. The rates per seer in force in 1912-13 were :—

	Rs.
Sambalpur	7
Other districts of Orissa	9
Elsewhere	11

The consumption of *ganja* in the British districts of Bihar and Orissa in 1933-34 amounted to 866 maunds and the taxation realized thereon was Rs. 13·28 lakhs from duty and Rs. 10·24 lakhs from vend fees. The average taxation per seer was thus Rs. 67·9 of which Rs. 38·3 were derived from duty and Rs. 29·6 from vend fees. Duty amounting to Rs. 0·15 lakhs on 10 maunds exported to other provinces and to the Political States within the Province was also realized during the year under review. 19 maunds of *ganja* were exported out of the province in 1932-33 against 363 maunds in 1912-13, and the receipts therefrom were Rs. 0·30 and Rs. 1·6 lakhs, respectively.

The consumption of *ganja* in the British districts of the province amounted to 30,137 seers in 1932-33 and 99,920 seers in 1912-13. The revenue derived from this drug amounted to Rs. 25·04 lakhs in 1932-33 and Rs. 20·93 lakhs in the year 1912-13. The average taxation per seer was Rs. 82·7 in 1932-33 and Rs. 20·9 in 1912-13.

35. *Duty arrangements in regard to ganja exported.—Ganja* was supplied free of duty to 22 of the Feudatory States in Orissa in consideration of these States having forbidden the cultivation of the hemp plant in their territories and adopted conditions of duty and vend arrangements similar to those existing in the British districts of Bihar and Orissa. *Ganja* could also be exported to other provinces in the British India, either in bond or on prepayment of duty in force in Bihar and Orissa. The duty-paid exports to Nepal, the Chota Nagpur Political States, and the two Orissa Feudatory States (Bonai and Gangpur) to which *ganja* was supplied on payment of duty, amounted to 10 maunds while duty-free exports to the other Feudatories in Orissa amounted to 14 maunds.

Charas.

36. *Supply, duty and vend arrangements.*—The sale of *charas* has been prohibited in this province since the year 1924-25. In 1912-13, the use of *charas* was confined to four districts, *viz.*, Gaya, the Santhal Parganas, Cuttack and Manbhum. The drug was procured either from the Punjab or from wholesale vendors in other provinces.

Bhang.

37. *Supply, duty and vend arrangements.—Bhang* grows wild in many parts of Bihar and Orissa, but collection for purposes of sale was permitted only in the district of Purnea. The whole quantity collected in Purnea was transported, to the central gola at Bhagalpur whence it was sold according to requirements. The total requirements of the province, as well as of Bengal and Assam, which obtained their supplies of *bhang* from Bhagalpur, were estimated, and a contract was given to one person for the collection and storage of that quantity for supply to licensed wholesale vendors, subject to a fixed maximum price. The contractor was selected by tender with reference chiefly to the price at which he was prepared to supply the wholesale dealers he had to pay no fees for the exclusive privilege of collection and supply. The maximum price of supply, fixed for the period of three years commencing from the 1st April 1931 was Rs. 3-8-0 a maund. The *bhang* was collected and stored under the supervision of Excise officers in a Government warehouse established at Bhagalpur and was issued thence to wholesale vendors under bond.

38. *Import and export.*—*Bhang* was also allowed to be imported by licensed wholesale vendors in the Champaran, Muzaffarpur and Saran districts from the Gorakhpur district of the United Provinces, but in 1933-34 there was no such import.

The wholesale vendors, who obtained their licenses free of charge, were required to keep their stocks of *bhang* in warehouses (golas) under Government supervision. Duty on the drug was paid by retail vendors at the time of its issue from the warehouse. The rate of duty per seer was Rs. 3 throughout the province, except in the North Gangetic tract, where it was Rs. 2.

The export of *bhang* was subject to conditions similar to those for *ganja* (*vide* paragraph 35 above). In 1933-34, 2 maunds were exported on payment of duty in Bihar and Orissa, to the Orissa Feudatory States and the Chota Nagpur Political States and 251 maunds in bond to Bengal and Assam. Three maunds were also exported to the Orissa Feudatory States without payment of duty.

Licenses for retail sale of *bhang* were settled in all districts like licenses for retail sale of *ganja*, under the sliding scale and auction systems. Permits for the possession of *bhang* in excess of $\frac{1}{4}$th seer, but not exceeding 5 seers at a time, and for its retail sale for medicinal purposes only were also granted by Collectors to approved medical practitioners on payment of a nominal fee of Re. 1 for the year. In 1933-34 one license was granted for the collection and supply of *bhang*, 37 for wholesale vend, 315 for retail vend and 91 druggists' permits. The number of these licenses during the years 1912-13 and 1932-33 was as follows :—

Bhang.	1912-13.	1932-33.
For collection and supply	3	1
For wholesale vend	44	37
For retail vend	278	296
Druggists' permits	19	79

39. *Consumption and average taxation.*—The consumption of *bhang* in the British districts of Bihar and Orissa in 1933-34 amounted to 161 maunds and the average taxation thereon was Rs. 10·3 per seer of which Rs. 3·0 were derived from duty and Rs. 7·3 from vend fees. The consumption of *bhang* in 1932-33 amounted to 166 maunds against 538 maunds in 1912-13. Average taxation per seer of *bhang* (duty and vend fees) was Rs. 11·8 in 1932-33 and Rs. 2·4 in 1912-13.

40. *Changes.*—No changes were introduced during the year under review.

41. *Offences and convictions.*—The number of persons convicted for illicit cultivation of the hemp plant was 89 in the year 1933-34, against 50 in 1932-33. Thirty-eight persons were convicted for unlicensed sale of *ganja* or *bhang*

against 57 in the preceding year. There were 91 convictions for the illicit possession of *ganja* or *bhang* compared with 85 in the previous year. 337 persons were convicted for unlawful export or transport of *ganja* or *bhang* against 458 in the preceding year. The total number of convictions for offences relating to *bhang* and *ganja* in 1933-34 was 555 against 668 in the preceding year and 154 in 1912-13.

42. *Consumption and taxation statistics for ganja and bhang together.*— Taking *ganja* and *bhang* together, the total consumption of hemp drugs in the British districts of Bihar and Orissa in 1933-34 amounted to 1,027 maunds or 1·0 seer per 1,000 of population according to the census figures of 1931. In 1932-33 the average consumption of hemp drugs (various sorts taken together) per 1,000 of population amounted to 0·9 seers against 3·5 seers in 1912-13. The average taxation on consumption in 1933-34 was Rs. 32·8 per seer from duty and Rs. 26·1 from vend fees, or Rs. 58·9 per seer in the aggregate. The total taxation per seer during the preceding year was Rs. 64·6 against Rs. 16·9 in 1912-13. The duty-paid exports outside the province during 1933-34 amounted to 12 maunds on which a duty of Rs. 0·15 lakhs was realized.

CHAPTER VII.

United Provinces of Agra and Oudh.

43. *General revenue statistics.*—The total receipts from hemp drugs for the year ending March 31, 1934, were 30·67 lakhs as shown below being 23·2 per cent. of the total Excise revenue :—

	Duty.	Vend fee, etc.	Total.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Ganja	2,91,913		
Charas	11,88,239	12,85,632	30,66,773
Bhang	3,00,989		
Total	1,781,141	12,85,632	30,66,773

Receipts from hemp drugs during the year 1932-33 amounted to 30·80 lakhs, and were 25·0 per cent. of the total Excise revenue. In 1912-13, the revenue from these drugs was Rs. 24·06 lakhs and the percentage that it bore to total Excise revenue, was 19·1.

A licence for the vend of hemp drugs covered the vend of all the three descriptions of hemp drugs.

Ganja.

44. *Supply and storage.*—No *ganja* was produced in this province and its import was permitted only from Bengal. The import had to be made by railway and under bond and was required to be covered by a pass. The drug was required to be consigned to the Collector of a district, in which a bonded warehouse, established for the storage of hemp drugs was situated. Duty was levied on the net weight of *ganja* as it was issued from the warehouse to licensed vendors.

45. *Duty and consumption.*—The rates of duty levied per seer in each of the years 1912-13, 1931-32 and 1932-33, were as follows :—

On *baluchar ganja* obtained direct from Rajshahi (the district of production in Bengal)—

1912-13.	1932-33.	1933-34.
Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
11-0-0	32-6-0	32-10-0
	33-2-0	32-14-0

The total consumption of *ganja* in 1933-34 was 223 maunds compared with 242 maunds in 1932-33 and 408 maunds in 1912-13.

Charas.

46. *Supply.—Charas* comes from Central Asia through warehouses in Punjab. Import from the Punjab was required to be made by rail only and covered by a pass. The drug had to be consigned, in the manner already

described in the case of *ganja* to a bonded warehouse. Duty was levied on the net weight issued from the warehouse.

47. *Duty and consumption.*—In 1933-34, the duty varied from Rs. 56 to Rs. 57 per seer and in 1932-33, it varied from Rs. 55-4-0 to Rs. 56-8-0 as against Rs. 12 in 1912-13.

An export duty of two annas per seer was levied on all *charas* exported from the United Provinces under bond. *Charas*, *ganja* and *bhang* were exported under bond to Benares State from the Benares Drugs Warehouse. *Charas* was also allowed to be exported free of duty to Rampur and Tehri States up to the limits of 200 and 50 seers respectively.

The consumption of *charas* in the United Provinces in the year ending March 31, 1934, was 523 maunds against 502 maunds in 1932-33 and 1,254 maunds in 1912-13. A special staff consisting of 7 Excise Inspectors and 67 peons remained working on the western border of the province to stop the smuggling of *charas* from the Punjab and Delhi Provinces which reduced duty on it to Rs. 20 a seer in 1928. Its efforts have met with some success.

Bhang.

48. *Production, taxation and consumption.*—The import of *bhang* into the United Provinces was prohibited. The only source of supply was the spontaneous growth of the wild hemp plant in the Himalayan sub-montane tracts. The collection of the plant was regulated by the issue of licences to supply contractors of hemp drugs. The cultivation of the hemp plant for the production of *bhang* has been prohibited throughout the province since 1925-26. Its cultivation for fibre and seed is permitted in the hilly portion of the Kumaon Division.

The total consumption of the drug during the year was 2,787 maunds. In 1932-33, the quantity of *bhang* consumed was 2,939 maunds. In 1912-13 the total consumption of the drug was estimated at 4,996 maunds. The collection of the drug of spontaneous growth was restricted to the following districts, *viz* :—

Saharanpur, Muzaffarnagar, Bijnor, Naini Tal, Bareilly, Kheri, Pilibhit Bahraich, Gonda, Basti and Gorakhpur.

The duty on *bhang* varied from Re. 0-10-0 to Rs. 3-4-0 per seer during the year and was the same as in 1932-33. In 1912-13, duty was levied at the rate of Rs. 4 per maund or Re. 0-1-7 per seer only on the transport of the drug from the districts of collection.

49. *Contract supply system.*—The contract supply system has been in force in all the 48 districts since April 1st, 1924. It is analogous to the system of contract supply of country spirit. Under it the exclusive privilege of supplying the intoxicating hemp drugs (*ganja*, *charas* and *bhang*) at fixed rates to a particular tract is granted for a definite period to a supply contractor. The contracts are fixed by tender. Usually the lowest tender is accepted, but full power is reserved to accept such tender as may be deemed best in the public interest.

Drugs were issued to retail vendors on payment of the contract price and duty, from bonded warehouses within the contract area of supply. Portions of the buildings of the bonded warehouses already established for the contract

supply of the country spirit were utilised for the storage and issue of all the three varieties of hemp drugs. There were 78 such warehouses. The drugs were transported, or imported as required, to the warehouses under bond by the contractors.

50. *General vend arrangements.*—In 1933-34, there were 2,190 retail shops. Shops were settled, licensees were selected and the collection of fees effected in accordance with the Surcharge System. In 1932-33, there were 2,162 retail shops against 102 wholesale and 3,463 retail shops during the year 1912-13. The fixed selling price of *ganja* and *charas* was Rs. 100 and Rs. 120 per seer respectively and that of *bhang* was Rs. 5 a seer except in the submontane districts where it was sold at Rs. 2-8-0 a seer.

51. *Administrative changes.*—The only important administrative change which took place during the year was that the Assistant Excise Commissioners of Agra and Saharanpur and the Excise Inspectors employed in the districts of Saharanpur, Muzaffarnagar, Meerut, Bulandshahr and Aligarh were authorised to exercise in the Punjab and Delhi Provinces the powers of an Excise Officer of the first class under sections 23 (1) and 30 of the Dangerous Drugs Act II of 1930. Similarly the Excise Inspectors and Sub-Excise Inspectors in the province of Delhi and in the districts of Ambala, Karnal, Gurgaon and Rohtak in the Punjab were empowered by the Local Government to enter, search, seize and arrest any offender and investigate any offence under the Dangerous Drugs Act II of 1930.

52. *Prosecutions and Convictions.*—Although illicit traffic in *charas* was greatly checked owing to the prosecution by the Central Provinces Government of a conspiracy case involving 28 chief smugglers of various provinces no less than 488 prosecutions were instituted during the year under report as compared with 547 during the previous year.

The total quantity of *charas* seized was 315 seers as against 451 seers in 1932-33. Of this 162 seers were seized by the Special Charas Staff and the remaining by the District Excise and the Police Staffs. For the first time since its establishment the Special Charas Staff has not been able to seize enough contraband to cover its cost for the year. The reasons for this are :—

1. Disturbances at the source of supply (Kashgar) which made import of even licit *charas* difficult.
2. Rounding up of several Inter-Provincial smugglers, and the death of Jai Bhagwan (an important inter-provincial smuggler), of Muttra.
3. The elimination of Rampuris from the field of smuggling.
4. The salutary and prohibitive effect of the deterrent punishments awarded under the Dangerous Drugs Act.

Smuggling of *ganja* from the Districts of Bihar bordering on the United Provinces continues owing to the cheaper rates prevailing there. Nepalese *ganja* which was hitherto imported in small quantities for private consumption is now reported to be smuggled on an organized scale in the districts of Fyzabad, Gonda and Sultanpur.

Petty smuggling of *ganja* from Bundelkhand States continued.

Crime in connexion with *Bhang* is not of any importance.

53. *Total consumption of hemp drugs and average taxation.*—Taking *ganja*, *charas* and *bhang* together, the total consumption of hemp drugs in the United Provinces, was 3,533 maunds in 1933-34 or 2·92 seers per 1,000 of the population, according to the census figures of 1931, and the average taxation thereon amounted to Rs. 21·7 per seer of which Rs. 12·6 were derived from duty. In 1932-33, the total consumption of hemp drugs of various descriptions taken together, amounted to 3,689 maunds against 6,658 maunds in 1912-13. The average total consumption of hemp drugs per 1,000 of the population amounted to 3·05 seers in 1932-33 against 5·6 seers in 1912-13. The average taxation per seer of hemp drugs (of all sorts taken together) was Rs. 20·9 in 1932-33, against Rs. 9·0 in 1912-13.

CHAPTER VIII.

PUNJAB.

54. *General revenue statistics.*—The principal source of revenue from hemp drugs in the Punjab is *charas*. The amount recovered from the duty on *charas* including warehouse dues was Rs. 7·21 lakhs as compared with Rs. 0·26 lakhs from the transport duty on *bhang* and Rs. 5·19 lakhs from license fees for the vend of *charas* and *bhang*, making a total of Rs. 12·66 lakhs. The corresponding figures in the previous year were Rs. 6·52, 0·28 and 5·14 making a total of Rs. 11·94 lakhs.

Charas.

55. *Import, duty, possession, and local consumption.—Charas* grows on the flowers of the female hemp plant in Central Asia only. It does not materialise on the hemp plant in India. It is collected in the form of a powder and kneaded into a sticky mass, under the heat of the sun. It is transported *via* Panamik where it is first registered by a clerk, to Leh in Kashmir State territory, where the Punjab Government has established a warehouse and maintains a special staff. Each bundle of *charas*, which ordinarily weighs 50 seers or a little less, is recorded in the warehouse and is forwarded either to Kulu or to Rawalpindi, or else consumed in Kashmir State territory under the direct control of the Durbar. There are four warehouses in the Punjab, at Sultanpur (Kulu), Hoshiarpur, Amritsar and Rawalpindi. On arrival at each of these warehouses the bundles are again registered. Transport after leaving Leh, is only permitted in bond under a pass. Warehouses have also been established in the North-West Frontier Province and *charas* is imported from Chitral in bond into the Punjab. The strict control and supervision exercised in this manner over imports minimises the risk of illicit importation, which can only take place, if the smuggler is prepared to smuggle the *charas* the whole way from Central Asia into India. *Charas* may not be kept in a warehouse for more than two years, after which it must either be destroyed or released from bond on payment of the duty, which since July 1928 has stood at Rs. 20 a seer. Warehouse dues are charged for the safe custody of *charas* kept in a Government warehouse. *Charas* is purchased from the wholesale import dealers either by retail vendors or by wholesale vendors who supply to the retail vendors. The fee for a wholesale license in bond for import is Rs. 5 per annum, and for a wholesale license out of bond Rs. 16. This out of bond license also covers the wholesale of *bhang*. Licenses for the retail vend of *charas* and *bhang* are auctioned at the same time as liquor licenses each year. The fixed maximum retail price for *charas* was reduced to nine annas per tola when the duty was reduced to Rs. 20 per seer but it was raised on April 1st, 1931, to twelve annas. The maximum limit of private possession for *charas* was three tolas. The total sales of *charas* for consumption in the Punjab in 1933-34 were 391 maunds as compared with 382 maunds in the

previous year and 637 maunds in 1912-13. The raising of duty to Rs. 60 per seer gave rise to much smuggling with the result that licit consumption greatly declined but recovered when the duty was reduced to Rs. 20.

56. *Charas contracts.*—Owing to the dealers in *charas* having combined to force up the price of *charas* to an unreasonably high level, the Punjab Government, acting in co-ordination with the Government of Bengal and the administrations of North-West Frontier Province, Baluchistan, Delhi and Ajmer-Merwara, and following to some extent the example of the United Provinces Government, arranged to call for tenders in advance for the wholesale supply of *charas*, thus bringing down the price exclusive of duty which had risen in 1930 as high as Rs. 6 per seer to about Rs. 5-8-0 per seer in 1931-32 Rs. 4 per seer for delivery in 1932-33, Rs. 2 in 1933-34 and Rs. 1-12-0 in 1934-35. Subsequently many Indian States in the Punjab, Rajputana and Central India arranged through the Punjab Government for similar contracts at rates of about Rs. 2 per seer for both 1932-33 and 1933-34. The reduction of about Rs. 4 per seer in the wholesale price of *charas* is equivalent to a saving for the various administrations in India concerned of about three lakhs of rupees a year. This money had not previously all gone into the pockets of the wholesale dealers, since owing to rivalry among themselves they imported each year amounts far in excess of the annual requirements of the country. Hundreds of maunds of *charas* thus had to be destroyed, when the drug had deteriorated so as to be unfit for consumption. In future the dealers will know their requirements in advance, and will be able to arrange their imports accordingly.

Bhang.

57. *Cultivation and Taxation.*—The hemp plant grows wild in the submontane districts of the Punjab, and cultivation was unrestricted in the districts of Ambala, Simla, Jullundur, Hoshiarpur, Gurdaspur, Kangra, Rawalpindi, Attock and Dera Ghazi Khan. In other districts cultivation was prohibited except in small plots of land and under special license by fakirs and other persons attached to religious institutions for their own consumption. Such persons paid no acreage duty. An import, transport and export duty was levied on *bhang*, this in 1930-31 stood at Rs. 6 a maund and was raised from April 1st, 1931, to Rs. 10.

58. *Vend of bhang and charas.*—53 wholesale licenses were issued for the wholesale vend of *bhang* and *charas* in 1933-34 as against 53 in the previous year and 75 in 1912-13. The retail vend licenses were disposed of by auction at the same time as the liquor auctions. Most of the shops auctioned were for the sale of both drugs. In 1933-34 there were 186 shops for the sale of both *charas* and *bhang* and 93 separate shops for *charas* and 93 separate shops for *bhang*, as compared with 175, 105 and 103 in the previous year and 396, 96 and 49 in 1912-13.

59. *Total consumption and the average taxation.*—The total consumption of both *charas* and *bhang* in 1933-34 was 2,204 maunds giving an average consumption of 3·73 seers per thousand of the population according to the census figures of 1931 and an average taxation of Rs. 6·96 per seer. The corresponding figures for 1932-33 were 7·33 and for 1912-13 Rs. 6·3 per seer.

Ganja.

60. The use of this product of the hemp plant is prohibited in the Punjab.

61. *Offence with regard to charas.*—The reduction in the duty on *charas* from Rs. 60 to Rs. 20 a seer caused a great decrease in the smuggling of *charas* into the Punjab for local consumption. At the price now ruling it is hardly worthwhile for smugglers to bring *charas* into the Punjab except for export to such provinces, as the United Provinces and Bengal, where the duty still remains at Rs. 60 a seer, or to other provinces, such as Bombay and Central Provinces, where the consumption of *charas* is absolutely prohibited. The total quantities of contraband *charas* seized during 1933-34 and the two previous years were 13, 17 and 9 maunds.

CHAPTER IX.

CENTRAL PROVINCES AND BERAR.

62. *General revenue statistics.*—The hemp drugs receipts for the calendar year 1933 amounted to Rs. 6,19,000,* being 10·7 per cent. of the total Excise revenue for that year (including cost price of opium). In 1932 the hemp drugs receipts amounted to Rs. 6,41,000† against Rs. 7,40,000 in 1912-13, and the revenue from these drugs represented 11·2 per cent. of the total Excise revenue in 1932 against 7·0 per cent. in 1912-13.

Ganja.

63. *Source of supply.*—The cultivation of the hemp plant for the production of *ganja* is restricted to the Khandwa tahsil of the Nimar district, and is there carried on under license, the cultivators being bound to harvest their crop under Government supervision, and to store the produce in a Government storehouse, whence it is issued to local bonded warehouses for consumption in the British districts and Central Provinces States of the province. All issues are made under the supervision of a responsible Government officer of the rank of District Excise Officer.

The Nimar district at one time produced sufficient *ganja* not only to meet the demand to the Central Provinces and Berar, but to allow of large exports to the United Provinces and to numerous States outside the province, such as Gwalior, Indore, Rewa and Bhopal. From the year 1892, however, the export trade gradually declined and no *ganja* was exported, except to Berar, between the years 1899-1900 and 1906-07. The amount of *ganja* produced declined simultaneously with the demand for export, and is now just sufficient to meet the demands of the Central Provinces and Berar.

64. *Duty and vend arrangements.*—*Ganja* intended for consumption in the Central Provinces and Berar is issued from the Khandwa storehouse, and is stored in a Government warehouse at the headquarters of most of the tahsils and at other warehouses. From the warehouses the *ganja* is issued to retail vendors who pay duty on the quantity they purchase.

The rate of issue price of *ganja* was Rs. 40 per seer as compared with Rs. 7-8-0 duty in 1912-13. It was Rs. 55 in the previous year except that the price of the old *ganja* of the crop of 1929-30 was reduced from Rs. 55 to Rs. 40 per seer, with effect from the 16th June 1932, as the drug had deteriorated. A new system was introduced at the close of the year 1918-19. Wholesale vendors were eliminated, and the entire crop was purchased by Government and supplied direct to the retail vendors at a fixed price. The cost price of *ganja* was fixed at Rs. 2-8-0 per seer throughout the Province in contrast to the fluctuating and often widely divergent prices previously charged by wholesale vendors. The result was an increase in license fees, a net gain on the sale-proceeds of *ganja* and a regular supply of the drug in all shops.

* The statistics of revenue are in each case given to the nearest thousand rupees.

† Including cost price.

In 1933, *ganja* cultivators of Dhangaon were paid at the rate of Re. 0-15-0 per seer of cleaned *ganja* and those of Badgaon Gujar at Re. 0-14-6 as against Re. 0-11-0 for the year 1932.

The right of retail vend is disposed of annually by auction for each shop separately. The number of shops in 1933 was 707 against 697 in the preceding year and 1,035 *plus* 4 temporary shops in 1912-13.

65. *Consumption, revenue and average taxation.*—The sales of *ganja* to retail vendors in the British districts of the Central Provinces and Berar in 1933 amounted to 235 maunds, and the revenue realised from the drug was Rs. 3,76,000 from issue price on issues to the retail vendors from warehouses, and Rs. 2,03,000 from license fees for the privilege of retail vend. The average taxation from vend fees thus amounted to Rs. 21·6 per seer on *ganja* sold to the retail vendors. Adding to this issue price at the rate of Rs. 40 per seer, the total average taxation on such sales amounted to Rs. 61·6 per seer.

In 1932 the sales of *ganja* to retail vendors in the British districts amounted to 195 maunds against 1,178 maunds in 1912-13, and the revenue realized from the drug in 1932 amounted to Rs. 3,88,000 from issue price and Rs. 2,16,000 from fees for the retail vend against Rs. 3,59,000 from duty and Rs. 3,33,000 from fees for the retail vend in 1912-13. The total average taxation per seer in 1932 amounted to Rs. 75·2 (27·7 from vend fees) against Rs. 14·6 (7·1 from vend fees) in 1912-13.

66. *Supply to Feudatory States.—Ganja* is supplied free of duty to the Central Provinces States other than those transferred from Bengal in 1905. The States are bound not to permit the cultivation of the hemp plant in their territories, nor to issue the drug to their licensed vendors at a lower rate than the retail vendors of the province have to pay for it. The Feudatory States transferred from Bengal in 1905 are charged full duty rates. The amount supplied to the Central Provinces States in 1933 was 14 maunds against 11 maunds in the preceding year and 111 maunds in 1912-13.

Bhang.

67. *Average taxation and vend arrangements.—Bhang* is imported from Hoshiarpur in the Punjab, and is stored in the Government godown at Khandwa, whence it is supplied to warehouses in the province for issue to retail vendors at a fixed price. The issue price of Rs. 9 per seer in 1930 remained unchanged against duty Rs. 2 in 1912-13. It is retailed in special shops. The number of such shops in 1933 remained unchanged at 50. In 1912-13, the number of shops licensed for the exclusive sale of *bhang* was 12. As in the case of *ganja* the right of vend is disposed of by auction and the revenue realized therefrom amounted to Rs. 16,000 in 1933 against Rs. 15,000 in 1932 and Rs. 5,000 in 1912-13. The issue price on *bhang* issued from warehouses to retail vendors in 1933 was Rs. 20,000 against Rs. 19,000 in 1932 and Rs. 5,000 in 1912-13, and the quantity sold was 57 maunds as against 54 maunds issued in 1932 and 60 maunds in 1912-13. The average taxation from vend fees on the sales to the retail vendors remained unchanged at Rs. 7·0 per seer against Rs. 2·1 per seer in 1912-13. Adding to this the issue price, the total average

taxation realized from the drug was the same as in the year 1932, *viz.*, Rs. 16·0 per seer against Rs. 4·1 per seer in 1912-13.

Charas.

68. Prior to 1906-07, there was no licit sale of *charas* in the Central Provinces or Berar; but in that year and the year following, shops were licensed for the first time. The drug was purchased by Government and supplied only at one place in the province, *viz.*, Jubbulpore, for the convenience of sepoys from the Punjab.

The only shop at Jubbulpore was closed permanently in the middle of August 1924, and thus the licit sale of the drug was discontinued throughout the province.

69. *Important change.*—The issue price of *bhang* was raised from Rs. 7 to Rs. 9 per seer in 1930, and continued to be in force in 1933.

70. *Offences, convictions and seizures.*—There were 17 cases of illicit cultivation of the hemp plant against 26 in the preceding year and 18 in 1912-13 Cases relating to smuggling and possession in excess of the legal limit increased from 263 in 1932 to 271 in 1933 under *ganja* and 71 in 1932 to 97 in 1933 under *bhang*, and 331 in 1932 to 406 in 1933 under *charas*. The total number of offences relating to hemp drugs in 1933 was 1,060 against 905 in the preceding year and 63 in 1912-13.

The total quantities seized in 1933 were 9 seers of *ganja* against 14 seers in 1932, 10 maunds, 11 seers and 54 tolas of *charas* against 4 maunds, and 58 tolas in 1932 and 16 seers and 49 tolas of *bhang* against 17 seers and 42 tolas in 1932.

71. *Consumption of and average taxation on ganja, bhang and charas taken together.*—The total consumption in British districts of the Central Provinces and Berar of licit *ganja* and *bhang* taken together in 1933 was 292 maunds, being at the rate of 0·7 seer per 1,000 of the population according to the census figures of 1931. The general average taxation was Rs. 53 per seer of which Rs. 34 were derived from issue price. The average consumption of hemp drugs per 1,000 of population was 0·6 seer in 1932 and 3·6 seers in 1912-13 and the average taxation per seer of hemp drugs amounted to Rs. 64 (47 from issue price) in 1932 against Rs. 14·6 (7·5 from duty) in 1912-13.

CHAPTER X.

ASSAM.

72. *General revenue and statistics.*—The revenue derived from hemp drugs (*ganja, bhang* and preparations thereof) during the year 1933-34 was Rs. 3,76,799 as shown below amounting to 10·76 per cent. of the total excise revenue :—

	Duty.	Vend fee.	Total.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Ganja	1,99,936	1,76,379	3,76,315
Bhang and medicinal preparations of hemp drugs.	Nominal	Nominal	484

In 1932-33 the total receipts from hemp drugs amounted to Rs. 4,03,917 as against Rs. 6·88 lakhs in 1912-13. The percentage of revenue from hemp drugs to total excise revenue was 9·9 in 1932-33 against 14·2 in 1912-13.

Ganja.

73. *Supply and vend arrangements.*—Warehouses for storage of *ganja* were maintained under Government supervision at almost all district and sub-divisional headquarters by licensed wholesale vendors who obtained their supply either direct from the Naugaon Ganja Cultivators' Co-operative Society Limited in the district of Rajshahi in Bengal or from other wholesale vendors. Retail vendors were required to take their requirements from these warehouses duty and license fees being charged at the time of issue. The limit of retail sale of the drug was 3 tolas.

The number of wholesale and retail licenses in force in 1933-34 was 24 and 249 against 25 and 245 respectively in the preceding year. In 1912-13 the numbers were 47 and 245.

74. *Duty, consumption and average taxation.*—Duty on *ganja* was levied on issue from the wholesale vendor's gola at the uniform rate of Rs. 20 per seer. In the previous year the rate of duty on the drug was Rs. 60 per seer except in Goalpara district where the rate was Rs. 35 per seer. In 1912-13 the duty on *ganja* was only Rs. 11 per seer. The reason for reducing the duty from Rs. 60 to Rs. 20 a seer was that on account of its high price the consumption of excise *ganja* had dropped heavily and its place was being largely taken by illicit *ganja* which—as the hemp plant grows wild in most parts of the

province is very easy to procure. The total consumption in 1933-34 amounted to 220 maunds 35 seers against 122 maunds 27 seers in 1932-33 and 846 maunds 24 seers in 1912-13. The retail price per tola of excise *ganja* was reduced to Re. 0-12-0 a tola throughout the province during the year under report. In the previous year the retail price per tola was Rs. 1-4-0 in all districts except in Goalpara where it was Re. 1 per tola. The rise in consumption during the year is not due to the spread of the *ganja* habit but merely indicates that persons who were buying illicit *ganja*, owing to the fact that the price of licit *ganja* was too high for their pockets, are again taking their requirements from the licensed shops instead of illicit sources. The average taxation on *ganja* in 1933-34 was Rs. 42·59 per seer (Rs. 19·96 from duty and Rs. 22·63 from vend fee) against Rs. 82·22 (Rs. 57·40 from duty and Rs. 24·82 from vend fee) in 1932-33 and Rs. 20·3 per seer (Rs. 11·1 from duty and Rs. 9·2 from vend fee) in 1912-13.

Bhang.

75. *Supply, duty and vend arrangements.*—*Bhang* grows wild in many parts of the province. The cultivation of the hemp plant is forbidden but its wild growth is so extensive that the only restriction hitherto found feasible in regard to the possession of *bhang* has been to fix a limit of a quarter of a seer per individual, the possession of any larger quantity requiring a special license. As in the previous year only two retail licenses were issued. The retail vendors obtained their supplies from outside the province. Duty was levied at the rate of Re. 0-8-0 per seer. Thirty-nine druggists permits were issued on payment of a fee of Rs. 3 each for the sale by medical practitioners of medicinal preparations containing *bhang*. In 1932-33 there were 37 such permits against 3 in 1912-13. The total annual fees amounted to Rs. 331 as compared with Rs. 223 in the preceding year.

76. *Consumption and average taxation.*—The consumption of *bhang* in 1933-34 was 38 seers as against 12 seers in 1932-33 and 5 maunds 9 seers in 1912-13. The average taxation thereon in 1933-34 was Rs. 9·26 per seer against Rs. 18·9 in 1932-33 and Rs. 1·64 per seer in 1912-13.

77. *Offences and convictions.*—The total number of offences relating to hemp drugs in 1912-13, 1932-33 and 1933-34 were 52,414 and 416 respectively. Of the cases which occurred in 1933-34, 198 were for illicit possession and sale of hill *ganja*, 50 for illegal cultivation of wild *ganja*, 17 for illegal cultivation of excise *ganja*, 116 for illegal importation of hill *ganja*, 2 for illegal possession of excise *ganja*, 22 for illegal cultivation of *bhang* and 11 for the illicit sale of *bhang*.

78. *Consumption of, and taxation on all descriptions of hemp drugs taken together.*—The total consumption of *ganja* and *bhang* in the province in 1933-34 amounted to 221 maunds 33 seers or 1·02 seers per 1,000 of population. In 1932-33 the figure was 122 maunds 39 seers or ·56 seer per 1,000 population against 5·1 seers in 1912-13.

CHAPTER XI.

North West Frontier Province.

Charas.

79. *Import duty and consumption.*—The *charas* required for consumption in the province was obtained direct from Central Asia *via* Chitral. Provincial requirements were met from the stock of Chitral *Charas* stored in the Peshawar warehouse. The issue price to retailers was Rs. 23-12-0 (Rs. 20 duty and Rs. 3-12-0 cost price).

In 1928-29, the rate of duty on *charas* issued from the warehouse was reduced from Rs. 60 to 20 a seer while in 1912-13 it was only Rs. 12 a seer. The receipts under this head during the year under report amounted to Rs. 26,462 against Rs. 24,800 and Rs. 23,079 in 1932-33 and 1912-13, respectively.

The consumption of *charas* in the province in 1932-33, as shown by the licit sale returns was 1,315 seers as comapred with 1,226 seers in the preceding year, and 3,844 seers in 1912-13. The increase in sales by 89 seers over the last year is attributable to the reduced imports of illicit *charas* owing to disturbances in Chinese Turkistan, whence the supplies of this drug are made. Illicit *charas* is still in abundance in the vicinity of border beyond which it can be stored without restriction. There are ample facilities for smugglers to import it either in bulk or in legally possessable quantities for retail sale. Even after the reduction of duty from Rs. 60 to 20 a seer in 1928 and fixation of the sale rate of *charas* at 9 annas per tola contraband *charas* could be had at 2 annas per tola. The difference in cost between licit and illicit *charas* which subsisted notwithstanding the reduction of duty and fixation of sale rates was an incentive to smugglers. Under the circumstances it was doubtful whether in view of the vend fee plus the cost price of licit *charas* even the entire elimination of Government duty would enable licit *charas* to compete with smuggled charas.

80. *Revenue.*—Revenue from hemp drugs (*charas bhang* and preparations thereof) was for the year 1933-34, Rs. 60,312 as compared with Rs. 64,665 in the preceding year and Rs. 1,36,000 in the year 1912-13.

81. *Warehousing.*—Bonded warehouses were maintained during the year at the headquarters of all districts for storage of the drug until cleared for consumption by payment of duty. Duty stood at Rs. 60 per seer till July first 1928, when it was reduced to Rs. 20 a seer.

82. *Revenue from licenses.*—The receipts from license fee in 1933-34 amounted to Rs. 31,168 against Rs. 38,666 in 1932-33 and Rs. 2,432 for *charas* and *bhang* together in 1912-13.

Bhang.

83. *Cultivation and taxation.*—*Bhang* grows wild in almost all parts of the province. In a few instances its cultivation under license was allowed as a concession to certain shrines in D. I. Khan district. The limit of private possession of this drug was one seer only.

84. *Import, export and transport.*—A duty of Rs. 2-8-0 per quarter of a maund of *bhang* was levied—

(*a*) on import into the province, and

(*b*) on transport within the province or to places outside the province, unless such transport took place under bond for the repayment of the import duty leviable in the province of consumption.

Bhang could be imported into the province from (*a*) foreign territory situated to the west of Indus or Kashmir and (*b*) the Punjab, by any person holding a license to sell the drug wholesale or retail.

In the case of imports from foreign territories, it was necessary to obtain a permit from the Collector of the district in which the importer held his license and in addition an import pass from the Collector of the district into which the *bhang* was to be brought on first reaching British India. Imports from the Punjab could be made only under a transport in bond pass obtained from the Collector of the Punjab district of origin on the production of a permit from the proper officer of the importing district.

85. In the year 1933-34 the *bhang* consumed in the N. W. F. Province was imported from the Punjab and Rs. 2,636 realised as duty thereon was credited to the N. W. F. Province.

86. *Sales.*—Sales of *bhang* decreased from 6,169 seers in 1932-33 to 5,910 seers in the year 1933-34. During the year 1912-13, 6,298 seers of *bhang* were sold.

87. *Vend arrangements for charas and bhang.*—The right of retail vend of *charas* and *bhang* in separately sanctioned shops was sold by auction. Most of these shops were for the sale of both drugs. In the year 1932-33 and 1933-34 there were respectively 51 and 49 shops for the sale of *charas* and *bhang* together against 56 in 1912-13. There was also one shop for the exclusive sale of *charas* in each of the years 1932-33 and 1933-34 against 18 in 1912-13. There was also one shop exclusively for the sale of *bhang* in the year 1912-13.

88. *Ganja.*—*Ganja* was not consumed in the province and its import and possession were prohib ited.

89. *Offences and convictions.*—The number of persons convicted for serious offences in respect of hemp drugs was 63 in 1933-34 as against 93 in the preceding year and 9 in 1912-13. Convictions for minor offences were obtained in the case of 5 persons in 1933-34 against 8 in 1932-33 and 8 in 1912-13.

90. *Total consumption and average taxation.*—Taking *charas* and *bhang* and other preparations of hemp together, the total consumption in 1933-34 was 7,225 seers against 7,395 seers in the preceding year and 10,155 seers in 1912-13. The average consumption of hemp drugs (of all sorts) per 1,000 of population

was 2·98 seers in 1933-34 against 3·09 in the preceding year and 4·5 seers in 1912-13. The average total taxation per seer on hemp drugs in 1933-34 was Rs. 43·70 (Rs. 23·70 from vend fee and Rs. 20 from duty) against Rs. 51·53 (Rs. 31·53 from vend fee and Rs. 20 from duty) in the preceding year and Rs. 13·4 (Rs. 5·9 from vend fee and Rs. 7·5 from duty) in 1912-13.

91. *Preventive staff.*—The fall of licit consumption under all heads due to the revival of illicit distillation and smuggled drugs being sold at far cheaper rates suggests the strengthening of the existing excise preventive machinery. This is under the consideration of the Local Government. No reduction in the duty on liquor or drugs could effectively check the prevalence of such cheaper intoxicants.

CHAPTER XII.

DELHI.

92. *Revenue.*—The revenue from the sale of hemp drugs in the Delhi Province for the years 1932-33 and 1933-34 was Rs. 1,72,107-4-0 and Rs. 1,70,982 respectively as against Rs. 66,883 during the year 1912-13.

These receipts were derived from license fees and duty on hemp drugs consumed in the Province.

93. *Charas and Bhang.*—All *charas* and *bhang* consumed in Delhi, are imported in bond from the Punjab, on payment of duty in the local Treasury. For this purpose a warehouse was established at Delhi with effect from the 1st April 1917.

94. *Consumption of Charas.*—The total consumption of *charas* and *bhang* in Delhi during the years 1932-33 and 1933-34 compared with the figures for 1912-13 is shown in the following table :—

	1912-13.	1932-33.	1933-34.
	Seers.	Seers.	Seers.
(1) *Charas*	3,895	2,915	2,803
(2) *Bhang*	4,071	2,297	3,941

The decrease in the sale of *charas* has beeen counter-balanced by increased sales of *bhang* which is being sold at very cheap rates. There was no change in the duty.

95. *Retail vend.*—The right of retail vend of *charas* and *bhang* is sold annually by public auction. There were six shops each for the sale of *charas* and *bhang* during the year 1932-33, the same as last year. The number of such shops in 1912-13 was 8 and 7 respectively.

96. *Wholesale vend.*—Wholesale vend licenses were granted at a fixed fee of Rs. 16 per annum while a whole-sale-in-bond license was charged at the rate of Rs. 5 per annum. There was only one wholesale dealer in Delhi in the years 1931-32 and 1932-33 as against 3 in 1912-13.

97. *Duty.*—The rates of duty levied in the Delhi Province were as follows :—

	1912-13.	1932-33.	1933-34.
	Rs. A.	Rs. A.	Rs. A.
(1) *Charas* per seer . . .	10 0	20 0	20 0
(2) *Bhang* per quarter maund or fraction thereof . . .	1 0	2 8	2 8

98. *Offences and convictions.*—The number of persons arrested and convicted was 25 and 22 respectively for the year 1933-34.

99. *Total consumption and average taxation thereon.*—The total consumption of *charas* and *bhang* in 1932-33 and 1933-34 amounted to 5,212 and 6,744 seers respectively as against 7,966 seers in 1912-13. The average consumption per 1,000 of population calculated on the census returns of 1911, 1921 and 1931 works out as follows :—

	1912-13.	1932-33.	1933-34.
Seers	19·91	8·2	10·6

100. The possession and sale of *ganja* was absolutely prohibited in the Delhi Province. No noteworthy resolutions or bills were passed during the year.

CHAPTER XIII.

AJMER-MERWARA.

101. *Description of excise system formerly in force.*—Up to the year 1898-99 the traffic in hemp drugs (*ganja*, *charas*, *bhang* and preparations hereof), was practically subject to no control in Ajmer-Merwara except that the monopoly of vend of the drugs throughout the territory, in shops, fixed by the local authorities, was sold by auction for annual or (in special cases) triennial periods. The hemp plant was not locally cultivated. *Charas* continued to be imported from the Punjab and *ganja* from Central India, but the contractors were at liberty to obtain their supplies whence they pleased.

102. *Revised arrangements introduced since 1899-1900.*—With effect from the 1st April 1899, revised rules for the regulation of the hemp drugs traffic in Ajmer-Merwara were brought into operation with reference to the recommendations of the Hemp Drugs Commission, and the orders of the Government of India thereon, the principal provisions of which are enumerated below :—

(1) The cultivation of the hemp plant in Ajmer-Merwara was absolutely prohibited.

(2) The import of hemp drugs into the district was permitted only by rail through the Ajmer railway station and under cover of a pass from the Collector of Ajmer-Merwara and subject to the following conditions, *viz.* :—

(*a*) that the import should be under bond for payment in Ajmer-Merwara of the duties leviable on the drugs imported ; and

(*b*) that the drugs should be consigned by the importer direct to the Collector of Excise Revenue, Ajmer-Merwara, and should be forthwith removed to a bonded warehouse established at Ajmer and kept there until issued for consumption on payment of duty.

103. The only persons authorised to import were the licensed vend contractors of hemp drugs.

The quantitative duties leviable on the drugs during the years 1912-13, 1932-33 and 1933-34 were as follows :—

	1912-13		1932-33.		1933-34.	
	Rs.	A.	Rs.	A.	Rs.	A.
Ganja per seer	7	5	10	0	10	0
Charas per seer	10	0	60	0	60	0
Bhang and *Majun* per maund. .	5	0	6	0	6	0

The arrangements for the vend of drugs described in paragraph 101 above were continued.

104. The number of retail shops sanctioned under the above arrangement in each of the years 1912-13, 1932-33 and 1933-34 was 16. The total receipts from duty and vend fees combined amounted in 1933-34 to Rs. 62,269 (representing 9·32 of the total excise revenue) as compared with Rs. 60,180 (or 9·51 per cent. of the total excise revenue) in 1932-33 and Rs. 18,000 (or 5·1 per cent. of the total excise revenue) in 1912-13. Taking all descriptions of hemp drugs together, the average consumption thereof per 1,000 of population was 7·1 seers in 1933-34 as compared with 7·1 seers in the preceding year and 6·5 seers in the year 1912-13. The total average taxation per seer thereon in 1933-34 amounted to Rs. 15·43 (Rs. 12·78 from duty and the balance from vend fees) as compared with Rs. 14·98 (Rs. 12·81 from duty and the balance from vend fees) in the preceding year and Rs. 5·6 (Rs. 2·5 from duty and the balance from vend fees) in 1912-13.

The consumption figures for these years were as under—

	1912-13.		1932-33.		1933-34.	
	Mds.	Srs.	Mds.	Srs.	Mds.	Srs.
Charas	17	14	19	34	20	25
Ganja	0	22	1	2	1	3
Bhang	51	39	66	36	66	11
Majun	11	1	12	24	12	34
Total	80	36	100	16	100	33

CHAPTER XIV.

Coorg.

105. *Supply, vend, etc.—Ganja* was the only hemp drug in use in the Province. *Ganja* consists of the dried flowering tops of cultivated female hemp plants which have become coated with resin in consequence of having been unable to seed freely. Its cultivation was strictly prohibited in Coorg. *Ganja* required for sale was obtained from the Mysore Darbar. The wholesale supply and vend was conducted by the treasury at Rs. 27-8-0 till end of June 1933 and at Rs. 30-0-0 from then onwards. In 1932-33 the rate was Rs. 27-8-0 a seer and in 1912-13 Rs. 7-8-0 (a seer=80 Tolas).

106. *Retail vend, etc.*—The number of retail shops in 1933-34 was 4. In 1932-33, it was 4 against 5 in 1912-13. The right to sell in these shops is auctioned annually.

107. *Revenue, etc.*—The rental realised in 1933-34 was Rs. 3,959 against Rs. 3,550 in 1932-33 and Rs. 1,023-8-0 in 1912-13. The total revenue derived under this head in 1933-34 was Rs. 8,814-6-0 against Rs. 6,789-2-0 in 1932-33 and Rs. 6,580 in 1912-13.

108. *Consumption.*—The quantity of *Ganja* consumed in 1933-34 was 165·11 seers or 1·09 seers per 1,000 of population against 117·63 seers or 0·72 seers per 1,000 of population in 1932-33 and 741 seers or 4·2 seers per 1,000 of population in 1912-13.

CHAPTER XV.

BALUCHISTAN.

109. *General revenue statistics.*—The revenue from hemp drugs for the year 1933-34 amounted to Rs. 69,300 being about 12·6 per cent. of the total excise receipts. Rs. 41,800 of this amount were derived from vend fees and warehouse dues and Rs. 27,500 from duty.

In 1932-33, the total receipts from hemp drugs amounted to Rs, 69,300 (Rs. 39,200 from vend fees and warehouse dues and the balance from duty), against Rs. 26,000 (Rs. 15,000 from vend fees and warehouse dues and the balance from duty) in 1912-13. In 1932-33, the receipts from hemp drugs bore a percentage of 12·0 to the total excise revenue, while in 1912-13 the hemp drugs receipts represented 9·3 per cent. of the total excise receipts.

110. *Cultivation, manufacture, supply and vend arrangements.*—The cultivation of the hemp plant was absolutely prohibited. There was no production of *charas* and *ganja* in Baluchistan. There was a bonded warehouse at Quetta for the import and storage of hemp drugs. The licensees were permitted to import hemp drugs in bond from other Provinces in British India. Permits for imports were issued by the Collectors. The duty on the drugs was levied at the time of issue from the bonded warehouse. The contracts for the wholesale and retail vend of hemp drugs were granted separately in all districts, there being in the years, 1933-34 and 1932-33, 4 wholesale shops and 38 retail shops against 9 wholesale and 68 retail shops in 1912-13.

111. *Source of supply and statistics of consumption.*—In 1933-34, 33 maunds and 29 seers of *charas* and 13 maunds of *bhang* were imported from the Punjab and Sind, respectively.

112. *Transport, private possession and duty.*—The maximum quantities of hemp drugs which could be transported without a permit from one place to another within Baluchistan or sold by retail or possessed by any person were five tolas in the case of *ganja* or any preparation or admixture thereof, three tolas in the case of *charas* or any preparation or admixture thereof, and twenty tolas in the case of *bhang* or any preparation or admixture thereof. The duty leviable on hemp drugs per seer in 1912-13, 1932-33 and 1933-34 was as follows :—

	1912-13.	1932-33	1933-34.
	Rs. A	Rs. A	Rs. A.
Ganja	7 8	10 0	10 0
Charas	12 0	20 0	20 0
Bhang	1 0	1 0	1 0

113. *Consumption and average taxation.*—The total consumption of *ganja*, *charas* and *bhang* in Baluchistan during the years 1932-33 and 1933-34 compared with the figures of 1912-13 is indicated by the following figures :—

	1912-13.		1932-33.		1933-34.	
	Mds.	Srs.	Mds.	Srs.	Mds.	Srs.
Ganja	0	15	0	2	0	1
Charas	22	17	30	13	25	35
Bhang	23	38	19	4	16	21
Total .	46	30	49	19	42	17

The average consumption of hemp drugs (of various sorts together) per 1,000 of population in 1933-34 was 4·16 seers against 4·85 seers in 1932-33 and 4·5 seers in 1912-13. The average taxation thereon in 1933-34 amounted to Rs. 40·82 per seer (Rs. 24·54 from vend fees and the balance from duty), compared with Rs. 35·03 per seer (Rs. 19·78 from vend fees and the balance from duty) in 1932-33 and Rs. 13·9 per seer (Rs. 8 from vend fees and the balance from duty) in 1912-13.

114. *Illicit traffic and offences.*—The reduction in the duty on *charas* from Rs. 60 to Rs. 20 a seer with effect from the 1st October 1928 and consequent reduction in the sale price caused a great decrease in the smuggling of *charas* into Baluchistan. The total number of offences relating to *charas* and *bhang* in 1933-34 was 1 and 2, respectively. The total quantity of *charas* and *bhang* involved was 9 tolas and 3 seers, respectively.

CHAPTER XVI.

I.

Classified statement showing consumption of hemp drugs of each sort separately, total consumption of all sorts taken together and the average consumption of hemp drugs (of all sorts taken together) per 1,000 of population during the years 1912-13, 1932-33 and 1933-34 (in seers).

Province.	Consumption of hemp drugs of each sort, etc.									Total consumption of hemp drugs.			Average consumption of hemp drugs per 1,000 of population.		
	Ganja.			*Charas.*			*Bhang.*								
	1912-13.	1932-33.	1933-34.	1912-13.	1932-33.	1933-34.	1912-13.	1932-33.	1933-34.	1912-13.	1932-33.	1933-34.	1912-13.	1932-33.	1933-34.
Madras Presidency	43,278	42,214	39,122	..	..	..	9,200	5,947	5,079	52,478	48,161	44,201	1·3	1·03	0·95
Bombay Presidency Proper.	5[illegible],565	22,[illegible]64	25,[illegible]97	5,433	4,7[illegible]2	7,425	8,328	7,161	8,511	64,326†	33,927	41,033	4·0	1·9	2·3
Sind	833	171	248	10,547	7,885	7,893	104,448	51,931	60,211	115,822	60,037	68,347	33·0	15·44	17·58
Bengal Presidency	122,810	37,709	35,574	1,[illegible]80	1,1[illegible]6	1,[illegible]26	27,947	10,536	9,828	151,837	49,351	46,428	3·34	·9	·9
Burma‡	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Bihar and Orissa	99,934	30,137	34,633	..	..	..	21,515	6,647	6,427	121,499	36,784	41,060	3·5	0·9	1·0
United Provinces	16,343	9,673	8,904	5[illegible],144	2[illegible],329	20,936	199,843	117,534	111,463	263,330	147,536	141,308	5·6	3·05	2·92
Punjab	..	..	..	25,454	15,292	15,663	91,159	72,337	72,477	116,613	87,629	88,140	5·9	3·2	3·7
Central Provinces and Berar*	47,132	7,784	9,406	743	..	..	2,410	2,149	2,271	50,235	9,933	11,677	3·6	0·6	0·7
Assam	33,804	4,907	8,835	..	..	..	269	12	38	34,073	4,919	8,873	5·1	·58	1·02
North-West Frontier Province	..	..	..	3,844	1,226	1,315	6,298	6,169	5,910	10,155	7,395	7,225	4·5	3·09	2·98
Delhi	..	..	..	3,895	2,915	2,8[illegible]3	4,071	2,297	3,941	7,966	5,212	6,744	19·91	8·2	10·6
Ajmer-Merwara	22	42	43	694	794	825	2,079	3,180	3,165	2,795	4,016	4,033	6·5	7·1	7·1
Coorg	741	117	165	..	..	..	..	..	..	741	117	165	4·20	72·0	101·09
Baluchistan	15	3	2	897	1,212	1,035	958	764	661	1,870	1,979	1,698	4·5	4·85	4·16
Total figure for British India	415,537	154,821	162,029	102,731	55,461	58,926	478,465	276,744	89,977	996,790	497,026	510,932	4·1	1·82	1·88

* Figures relate to calendar years except in the case of 1912-13.
† Revised figure.
‡ Figures not available.

II.

Statement showing the hemp drugs revenue, its percentage to total Excise Revenue and its incidence per head of population during 1912-13, 1932-33 and 1933-34.

Province.	Total hemp drugs revenue (In thousands of rupees.)			Percentage of hemp drugs revenue to total Excise revenue.			Incidence of hemp drugs revenue per head of population (to the nearest pie).		
	1912-13.	1932-33.	1933-34.	1912-13.	1932-33.	1933-34.	1912-13.	1932-33.	1933-34.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.				Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
Madras Presidency	7,24	20,42	21,26	2·2	4·8	5·0	0 0 3	0 0 8	0 0 8
Bombay Presidency Proper	7,46	17,20	19,24	3·9	5·45	5·86	0 1 0	0 1 6	0 1 9
Sind	5,08	6,76	5,87	21·9	21·70	19·37	0 1 0	0 2 9	0 2 5
Bengal Presidency	30,70	31,17	31,17	22·31	22·17	21·42	0 1 1	0 0 11	0 0 11
Burma	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Bihar and Orissa	23,06	26,18	24,39	22·2	21·8	19·7	0 1 0	0 1 1	0 1 0
United Provinces	24,06	30,80	30,67	19·1	25·0	23·2	0 0 10	0 1 0	0 1 0
Punjab	7,44	11,95	12,66	11·5	8·55	12·40	0 0 7	0 0 9	0 0 10
Central Provinces and Berar*	7,40	6,41	6,19	7·0	11·2	10·7	0 0 10	0 0 8	0 0 3
Assam	6,88	4,03	3,77	14·2	9·99	10·72	0 1 3†	0 0 9	0 0 8
North-West Frontier Province	1,36	65	60	26·0	8·38	7·24	0 0 11	0 0 5	0 0 4
Delhi	68	1,72	1,70	16·97	26·5	25·8	0 2 8	0 4 4	0 4 3
Ajmer-Merwara	18	60	62	5·1	9·51	9·32	0 0 7	0 1 8	0 1 9
Coorg	7	7	9	2·9	2·56	3·55	0 0 8	0 0 8	0 0 10
Baluchistan	26	69	69	9·3	12·0	12·6	0 1 0	0 2 9	0 2 9
Total figure for British India	1,21,87	1,58,63	1,58,92	9·9	7·6	10·6	0 0 10	0 0 11	0 0 11

* Figures relate to calender years except in the case of 1912-13.

† Revised figures.

III.

Classified statement showing the number of shops licensed for the retail sale of each description of hemp drugs during 1912-13, 1932-33 and 1933-34.

Province.	1912-13. Number of licenses for the retail sale of			1932-33. Number of licenses for the retail sale of			1933-34. Number of licenses for the retail sale of		
	Ganja.	*Bhang.*	*Charas.*	*Ganja.*	*Bhang.*	*Charas.*	*Ganja.*	*Bhang.*	*Charas.*
Madras Presidency	538		..	453		..	454		..
Bombay Presidency Proper	572			533		43 (*c*)	728		46(*c*)
Sind		378 (*a*)		195	205	42	359	369	107
Bengal Presidency	1,422	(*b*)444	51	1,214	335	34	1,222	335	34
Burma	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Bihar and Orissa	1,334	297	5	1,131	296	..	1,223	315	..
United Provinces		3,463			2,162			2,190	
Punjab	..	445*	495*	..	278§	280§	..	279¶	279¶
Central Provinces and Berar‡	(*a*)1,039	44	16	679	50	..	707	50	..
Assam	245	5	..	245	2	..	249	2	..
North-West Frontier Province	..	57	74	..	51	52	..	49	50

Delhi	..	7	8	..	6	6	..	6	6
Ajmer-Merwara		16			16			16	
Coorg	5	..	..	4	..	..	4	..	..
Baluchistan		68		35	38	38	35	38	38
		1,110	..		986			1,182	
Total		3,925			2,178			2,206	
	4,045	1,299	649	3,503	1,261	495	3,599	1,443	560

* Of these 396 shops sold *bhang* and *charas* together.

† Of these 174 shops sold *bhang* and *charas* together.

‡ Figures relate to calendar years except in the case of 1912-13.

§ Of these 175 shops sold *bhang* and *charas* together.

(*a*) Inclusive of temporary licenses.

(*b*) Inclusive of *bhang* druggists' permits.

(*c*) The sale of *charas* has been allowed in the Town and Island of Bombay and in the City of Ahmedabad. Out of the total 522 licenses, only 43 licenses (36 in Bombay and 7 in Ahmedabad) were allowed to sell *charas* in addition to *ganja* and *bhang*.

¶ Of these 186 shops sold *bhang* and *charas* together.

IV.

Statement showing for each Province (excluding Burma where the use of the drug and the average taxation per seer on all hemp drugs during 1912-13, column "average taxation" are as a rule, not available owing to the right of

Rates of duty per seer

Province.	*Ganja.*			*Charas.*		
	1912-13.	1932-33.	1933-34.	1912-13.	1932-33.	1933-34.
	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
Madras Presidency	7 8 0	25 0 0	27 8 0	..	..	..
Bombay Presidency Proper.	6 0 0	30 0 0	30 0 0	12 0 0	45 0 0	45 0 0
Sind	7 8 0	20 0 0	20 0 0	60 0 0	25 0 0	25 0 0
Bengal Presidency	11 0 0	40 0 0	40 4 0	12 0 0	70 0 0	72 6 0
Burma	..	..	..	..	..	..
Bihar and Orissa	7 9 0 to 11 0 0	35 0 0 and 40 0 0	35 0 0 and 40 0 0	12 0 0	..	..
United Provinces	6 0 0 to 11 0 0	32 6 0 to 33 2 0	32 10 0 to 32 14 0	12 0 0	55 4 0 to 56 8 0	56 0 0 to 57 0 0
Punjab	..	..	..	10 0 0	20 0 0	20 0 0
Central Provinces and Berar*.	7 8 0	(a) 55 0 0	(a) 40 0 0	16 0 0	..	..
Assam	11 0 0	60 0 0	20 0 0	12 0 0	..	..
North-West Frontier Province.	..	..	..	..	..	..
Delhi	..	..	..	10 0 0	20 0 0	20 0 0
Ajmer-Merwara	7 8 0	10 0 0	10 0 0	10 0 0	60 0 0	60 0 0
Coorg	7 8 0	27 8 0	(d) 27 8 0 and (e)30 0 0	..	..	..
Baluchistan	7 8 0	10 0 0	10 0 0	12 0 0	20 0 0	20 0 0

NOTE.—A. D.—
T. D.—

* Figures relate to calendar years.

(d) Rate till 30th June 1933.
(e) From 1st July 1933.

hemp drug is prohibited) the rates of duty levied on each description of hemp 1932-33 and 1933-34. (Separate statistics for ganja, charas and bhang under vend of various descriptions of the drugs being disposed of together).

in force on			Average taxation per seer on all descriptions of hemp drugs.								
Bhang.			By duty.			By vend fees.			Total.		
1912-13.	1932-33.	1933-34.	1912-13.	1932-33.	1933-34.	1912-13.	1932-33.	1933-34.	1912-13.	1932-33.	1933-34.
Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
3 0 0	10 0 0	12 8 0	7·15	23·02	25·80	6·65	18·83	21·90	13·80	41·85	47·70
1 0 0	4 0 0	4 0 0	7·8	30·13	28·67	3·8	20·56	18·20	11·6	56·69	46·87
1 0 0	2 0 0	1 8 0	2·6	5·15	4·24	1·8	6·11	4·35	4·4	11·26	8·59
0 8 0 to 1 0 0.	1 0 0	1 0 0	9·8	34·0	32·9	10·42	29·1	27·3	20·22	63·1	60·2
..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
0 8 0	3 0 0 and 2 0 0	3 0 0 and 2 0 0	9·1	32·2	32·8	7·8	32·4	26·1	16·9	64·6	58·9
A. D. 8 0 0 T. D. 4 0 0 (per md.)	T. D. 25 0 0 to 130 0 0 (per md.)	T. D. 25 0 0 to 170 0 0 (per md.)	3·0	12·0	12·6	6·0	8·9	9·1	9·0	20·9	21·7
Trans-port.	duty at Rs. 10.	per maund.	3·9	20·0	@ 20·0	2·4	28·65	@ 11·52	6·3	48·65	@ 31·52
2 0 0	(a) 9 0 0	(a) 9 0 0	7·5	(b) 47·0	(b) 34·0	7·1	17·0	19·0	14·6	64·0	53·0
0 8 0	0 8 0	0 8 0	11·0	(c)	(c)	9·2	(c)	(c)	20·2	(c)	(c)
4 0 0 (per maund)	10 0 0 (per maund)	10 0 0 (per maund)	7·5	20	20	5·9	31·53	23·70	13·4	51·53	43·70
4 0 0 (per maund)	10 0 0 (per maund)	10 0 0 (per maund)	2·9	11·79	8·4	6·43	21·0	25·2	8·52	32·79	33·6
5 0 0 (per maund)	6 0 0 (per maund)	6 0 0 (per maund)	2·5	12·81	12·78	3·1	2·17	2·65	5·6	14·98	15·43
..	..	..	8·50	27·50	28·75	1·30	26·95	23·98	9·80	54·45	52·73
1 0 0	1 0 0	1 0 0	5·9	15·25	16·28	8·0	19·78	24·54	13·9	35·3	40·82

Average duty.
Transport duty.
except in the case of 1912-13

(a) Issue price.
(b) By issue price.
‡Revised figure.

@ This is the the taxation on *Charas.*
(c) Information not available

V.

Statement showing the number of offences relating to all descriptions of hemp drugs and the percentage of increase (+) or decrease (—) over the figures of 1912-13 and 1932-33.

Province.	Number of convictions for offences relating to hemp drugs during			Percentage of increase (+) or decrease (—) of the number of offences in 1933-34 over the figures of	
	1912-13.	1932-33.	1933-34.	1912-13.	1932-33.
Madras Presidency	261 (offences)	529 (offences)	585 (offences)	+124·1	+10·6
Bombay Presidency Proper	1,513 (offences)	461 (offences)	388 (offences)	—74·35	—15·83
Sind	89	193	202	+126·97	+4·66
Bengal Presidency	264	654	850	+221·9	+29·9
Burma	501	703	657	+31·14	—6·54
Bihar and Orissa	154	668	555	+260·3	—16·9
United Provinces	212 (cases)	547 (cases)	488 (cases)	+130·02	—10·79
Punjab	42	137	89	+111·9	—35·0
Central Provinces and Berar*	63 (offences)	905 (offences)	1,060 (offences)	+1,582·5	+17·1
Assam	52 (offences)	386	390	+700·0	+·48
North-West Frontier Province	17	101	68	+75	—48·52
Delhi	2	15	17	+750	+13·3
Ajmer-Merwara	..	4	1	..	—75·0
Coorg	3	1	0	—100·0	—100·0
Baluchistan	7 (Cases of smuggling).	3	3	—57·14	*Nil.*

* Figures relate to calendar years except in the case of 1912-13

VI.

Statement showing the percentage of total gross revenue derived from hemp drugs in the years 1912-13, 1932-33 and 1933-34.

Province.	Total gross revenue. (In lakhs of rupees.)			Revenue realized from hemp drugs. (In lakhs of rupees.)			Percentage of the total gross revenue derived from hemp drugs in		
	1912-13.	1932-33.	1933-34.	1912-13.	1932-33.	1933-34.	1912-13.	1932-33.	1933-34.
Madras Presidency	8,08·4	17,00·1	16,15·2	7·2	20·42	21·26	0·9	1·2	1·3
Bombay Presidency	7,95·8	15,25·09	14,66·61	12·5	25·61	19·24	1·6	1·6	1·38
Sind	25·2	31·15	30·31	3·03	6·76	5·87	21·9	21·70	19·37
Bengal Presidency	7,16·5	1,40·5	1,34·63	30·7	31·1	28·8	4·2	22·25	21·42
Burma	..	..	..	6,08·3	10,28·6	10,43·3	..	..	..
Bihar and Orissa	3,35·2	5,05·8	4,96·5	23·1	26·1	24·3	6·9	5·1	4·9
United Provinces	7,07·9	11,45·8	11,22·8	24·1	30·8	30·7	3·4	2·7	2·7
Punjab	5,09·5	10,23·91	10,38·02	7·4*	11·95	12·66	0·6	1·16	1·22
Central Provinces and Berar	3,25·4	4,54·5	4,34·3	7·4	6·3	6·2	2·3	1·4	1·4
Assam	1,78·1	2,38·2	2,11·4	6·9	4·03	3·77	3·9	1·7	1·8
North-West Frontier Province	4·04	8·77	8·32	1·3	·65	0·60	2·5	7·4	7·5
Delhi	3·15†	9·23	9·06	·68	1·72	1·70	0·17	18·63	18·76
Ajmer-Merwara	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)
Coorg	(a)	13·12	12·05	0·07	0·07	0·08	(a)	·52	0·73
Baluchistan	16·56	20·10	20·70	·26	·69	0·69	1·57	3·43	3·33

* Including Delhi. † Revised figures. (a) Information not available.

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VII.

Statement showing the quantities of hemp drugs seized in 1912-13, 1930-31, 1931-32, 1932-33 and 1933-34.

Province.	1912-13.			1930-31.			1931-32.			1932-33.			1933-34.		
	Ganja.	*Charas.*	*Bhang* and preparations thereof.	*Ganja.*	*Charas.*	*Bhang* and preparations thereof.	*Ganja.*	*Charas.*	*Bhang* and preparations thereof.	*Ganja.*	*Charas.*	*Bhang* and preparations thereof.	*Ganja.*	*Charas.*	*Bhang* and preparations thereof.
	Srs.	Srs.	Srs.	Srs.	Srs.	Srs.	Srs.	Srs.	Srs.	Srs.	Srs.	Srs.	Srs.	Srs.	Srs.
Madras Presidency	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Bombay Presidency Proper.	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Sind	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Bengal Presidency	*	*	*	55§	57§	23§	2 ch.§	51§	22§	1§	1 tola	305§	46§	3§	38§
Burma	1,912	..	..	2,292	..	..	3,631	..	..	1,610	..	..	2,279	..	..
Bihar and Orissa	6	..	36½†	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
United Provinces	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	..	..	..	*	*	*
Punjab	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	..	..	..	*	*	*
Central Provinces and Berar.	..	..	..	*	*	*	*	*	*	..	..	..	..	..	..
Assam	*	*	*	73	..	..	170‖	*	*	717	..	..	375	..	45
North-West Frontier Province.	*		*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	..	..	..
Delhi	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	..	..	..
Ajmer-Merwara	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	9½	*	*	*	*	..	..	..
Coorg	*	*	*	*		*	*	*	*	*	*	*	..	..	..
Baluchistan	..	2	3½	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	..	..	..

* Information not available.

† Represents seizures in important cases only.

§ Represents seizures by the Excise Intelligence staff only. Information relating to seizures by the Excise Department is not available.

‖ Revised figures.

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